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The Public Service Commission
State of South Carolina

RANDY MITCHELL
COMMISSIONER, THIRD DISTRICT
CHAIRMAN

November 1, 2005

P.O. DRAWER 11649
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29211
Phone: (803) 896-5260
Fax: (803) 896-5170

MAJ James W. Fender, Jr.
Data Processing Manager
US Army

Dear Major Fender:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your e-mail of October 27, 2005 regarding South Carolina Electric and Gas Company.

In March 2004 the General Assembly enacted legislation which created the Office of Regulatory Staff. As a result of that legislation, effective January of 2005, the Public Service Commission took on an exclusively judicial role. All resources for the investigation and resolution of consumer inquiries and complaints were assigned to the Office of Regulatory Staff.

I have forwarded your inquiry to that Agency's Consumer Services Department for handling; I am sure you will receive a response once their investigation has been completed.

Yours very truly,

Randy Mitchell

RM:ng

C: Consumer Services Department
Office of Regulatory Staff
PO Box 11263
Columbia SC 29211

PSC - DMS

RECEIVED

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PSC SC
DOCKETING DEPT.

Docket No. 2005-113-G

South Carolina Electric and Gas Company -
Application Seeking Approval of Gas Rates, Terms,
and Conditions

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Nina Gates, an employee of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina, do hereby certify that I have served a copy of correspondence received from Major James W. Fender, Jr., Data Processing Manager, US Army, concerning the above-referenced matter, as indicated below, by regular mail, on this 1st day of November, 2005.

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Nina Gates, Administrative Assistant
Public Service Commission
of South Carolina
Columbia, South Carolina

Gates, Nina

From: Fender, James W Jr MAJ SCARNG [james.fender@us.army.mil]
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2005 11:31 AM
To: Chairman.Mitchell
Subject: SCE&G Rate Increase Approval

Sir

I am sorry to bother you, but you are my PSC representative. I live in Batesburg and am a resident of Saluda County. I am concerned with the recent announcement that I heard on WIS-TV that alluded to the recent approval of SCE&G's rate increase request. I understand that the average increase for consumers will be \$58 per month (roughly \$700 per year!!!). This was on top of the recent increase that SCE&G was granted just a few months ago.

With gasoline prices having risen over a dollar per gallon in the last year (I have to commute 100 miles per day round-trip to Columbia), I must say that another rate increase on SCE&G's part was not welcome news. I moved to Saluda County from New Holland (Aiken County) where my utility was Aiken Electric Co-op. SCE&G's service, rates, and attitude toward their customers falls FAR short of what I was accustomed to with the Co-op. I understand that SCE&G's costs have risen too, but as a for-profit corporation having a monopoly on the consumer electricity market in my area, I would think that they would be in a better position to absorb some of those costs rather than passing them on to their customers. Because of SCE&G's monopoly, we have no choice but to pay their higher rates once you (the PSC) approve them. Please consider these issues before voting to allow SCE&G any further rate increases.

Thank you for your time.

V/R

James Fender

P.S. Is there any possibility that this rate increase will be rolled back?

MAJ James W. Fender Jr.
Data Processing Manager
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583.4429 DSN
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11/1/2005